

and in the equal rights of men and women; and

Whereas, The convention provides a comprehensive framework for challenging the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based on sex, and the nations in support of the present convention have agreed to follow convention prescriptions; and

Whereas, Women constitute at least forty-one percent of the work force worldwide yet are far behind men in pay, power, and responsibility; and

Whereas, Nearly seventy percent of the world's poor are women; and

Whereas, On average, women around the world earn thirty to forty percent less than men for work of comparable value; and

Whereas, Twelve countries have laws that do not allow women to seek employment, open a bank account, or apply for a loan without the husband's authorization; and

Whereas, Thirty-three and six-tenths percent of the adult female population is illiterate versus 19.4 percent of the adult male population; and

Whereas, Young women face discrimination in the classroom which undermines their self-esteem and jeopardizes their future performance; and

Whereas, Over sixty percent of the women and girls in the world live under conditions which threaten their health; and

Whereas, Eleven percent of the women in industrialized countries suffer from nutritional anemia, and up to two-thirds of pregnant women in Africa and much of Asia are anemic; and

Whereas, In Austria, violence against wives was cited as a contributing factor in 59 percent of 1,500 divorce cases that were reviewed; and

Whereas, In the United States six million women are beaten by their husbands or boyfriends each year, and 1,500 of them will die; and

Whereas, Battering is the major cause of injury to women in the United States; and

Whereas, In India, registered cases of women being killed in disputes over their dowries soared from 999 in 1985 to 1,786 in 1987; and

Whereas, Kuwait is the only country in the world that extends voting privileges to certain citizens, but prohibits all women from voting; and

Whereas, Although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal, educational, and other fields in this century, there is much yet to be accomplished, and through its support and leadership, the United States can help create a world where women are no longer discriminated against and can achieve one of the most fundamental of human rights, equality; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That his House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby respectfully urges President William J. Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to place the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in the highest category of priority in order to accelerate the treaty's passage through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and to the members of the Rhode Island Delegation to the Congress of the United States.

POM-405. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Common-

wealth of Pennsylvania relative to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, the United States strategic petroleum reserves and to negotiate with OPEC or non-OPEC countries for additional oil reserves or supplies; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Fuel, in particular diesel fuel, and home heating oil prices have skyrocketed to record highs in the first weeks of 2000, threatening this Commonwealth's citizens' well-being and safety to crisis proportions; and

Whereas, Retail prices of home heating fuel and diesel fuel in some areas of this Commonwealth have reached \$2 per gallon, and level rack prices of diesel fuel are 106% higher than they were in the first week of February 1999; and

Whereas, The impact of escalating oil prices on an industry that is operating on narrow profit margins is being compounded by driver shortages and other increased costs; and

Whereas, These increases dramatically affect prices for essential utility and municipal services, and increases in transportation costs threaten jobs and could cause major disruption of vital supplies and other goods and services; and

Whereas, Home heating oil supplies are extremely tight, particularly in the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast, and weather forecasts call for continued below-normal temperatures; and

Whereas, Refineries in Pennsylvania and other states must produce more home heating fuel, which may cause shortages of other oil products such as gasoline, kerosene and undyed diesel fuel, thereby driving up prices accordingly; and

Whereas, The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has indicated its desire to extend existing output cuts amounting to over 4 million barrels per day, resulting in nearly triple prices in less than one year, devastation to world economic growth and inflation; and

Whereas, According to the International Energy Agency, global oil supplies could be as much as 3 million barrels per day below demand in the first quarter of 2000, and as much as 1.5 million barrels per day below requirements in the second quarter; and

Whereas, A mid-January snowstorm, which occurred in the northeast region of the United States, triggered even faster price increases in Pennsylvania, resulting in United States light crude oil selling just 4¢ below the \$30 per barrel mark; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President of the United States and the Secretary of Energy to take immediate action to release emergency funding to the State for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and to release the United States strategic petroleum reserves, negotiate release of additional oil reserves from non-OPEC countries or negotiate with OPEC on additional supplies; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Energy, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 251. A resolution designating March 25, 2000, as "Greek Independence Day: A Na-

tional Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy."

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 671. A bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide for the registration and protection of trademarks used in commerce, in order to carry out provisions of certain international conventions, and for other purposes.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 1638. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the retroactive eligibility dates for financial assistance for higher education for spouses and dependent children of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Sylvia V. Baca, of New Mexico, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first time and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2051. A bill to revise the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 2052. A bill to establish a demonstration project to authorize the integration and coordination of Federal funding dedicated to community, business, and the economic development of Native American communities; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 2053. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide marriage tax penalty relief for earned income credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MACK:

S. 2054. A bill for the relief of Sandra J. Pilot; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 2055. A bill to establish the Katie Poirier Abduction Emergency Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 2056. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to ensure an adequate level of commodity purchases under the school lunch program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2057. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the use of electronic measurement units (EMUs); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):